

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

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DRAFTED BY: S/S:RPERITO

APPROVED BY: S/S:RPERITO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 068022 TOSEC 030018

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 918 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO  
CAIRO TEL AVIV 26 MAR 77

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 918

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,UNSC, XF

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON SYG'S REPORT ON THE MIDDLE  
EAST -- CONSENSUS STATEMENT

REF: USUN 916

1. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE LEONARD CONVEYED US OBJECTIONS  
TO NON-ALIGNED DRAFT CONSENSUS STATEMENT TO AMB MEGUID AT  
3:00 P.M. ON MARCH 26. MEGUID SAID HE WOULD REPORT TO  
CAIRO AND UNDERLINED THAT HE IS AN INSTRUCTED AMBASSADOR.  
MEGUID DWELLED CONSIDERABLY ON PUBLIC INTERPRETATION AS  
ISRAELI VICTORY IF EGYPT WITHDREW "HOMELAND" OR OTHER ELEMENT  
IN DRAFT. END SUMMARY.

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2. AMB LEONARD REVIEWED CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS OF THIS DEBATE  
IN WHICH EGYPT AND US APPEARED TO BE WORKING TOGETHER, UNTIL  
ADVENT OF DRAFT CONSENSUS STATEMENT. LEONARD POINTED OUT  
WE HAD AGREED TO DEBATE IN MARCH ON ASSURANCE FROM EGYPT  
THAT THEY WOULD LEND THEIR EFFORTS TO A SIMPLE, NON-  
SUBSTANTIVE CONSENSUS OUTCOME. NOW WE ARE CONFRONTED WITH

DRAFT CONSENSUS WHICH CLEARLY CONTAINS ELEMENTS WHICH ARE SUBSTANTIVE AND WHICH SHOULD BEST BE REFERRED TO PROPER SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS SUCH AS BETWEEN OUR TWO HEADS OF STATE OR AT RECONVENED GENEVA CONFERENCE. THESE SUBSTANTIVE ELEMENTS DO NOT BELONG IN A PROCEDURAL-TYPE CONSENSUS AND ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE TO US. USG WOULD IF NECESSARY USE VETO TO PREVENT SUCH OUTCOME. IT IS NOW UP TO EGYPT TO WORK OUT SOLUTION. INTRODUCTION OF SUBSTANTIVE ELEMENTS IN DRAFT STATEMENT WAS OUTSIDE OF OUR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING; CLEARLY EGYPT HAS RESPONSIBILITY, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF PRESIDENT SADAT'S TRIP NEXT WEEK TO WASHINGTON, TO WORK TOWARD AGREEMENT ON PROCEDURAL-TYPE CONSENSUS STATEMENT.

3. AMB MEGUID REPLIED BY FIRST RECOUNTING THAT LETTER FROM SC PRES TO SYG, AS PROPOSED TO HIM BY FRG PERMREP, WAS NOT ACEQUATE RESPONSE TO SYG'S REPORT; SITUATION IS TOO SERIOUS TO BE PUT ASIDE BY A LETTER. PERHAPS EGYPT AND US WERE NOT ON SAME WAVE LENGTH AT THIS POINT, AND MOREOVER GA RES 31/62 CALLS FOR SC MEETING. MEGUID ACKNOWLEDGED THAT EGYPT TOO DESIRED TO RESERVE MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE FOR US AND EGYPTIAN PRESIDENTS.

4. TURNING TO DRAFT STATEMENT, MEGUID DESCRIBED EFFORTS AT ARAB GROUP MEETING MARCH 25 OF EGYPT, SYRIA AND JORDAN TO PERSUADE PLO OBSERVER TO ACCEPT WORD "HOMELAND" INSTEAD OF "STATE" IN PARA 2. MEGUID DEPICTED DRAFT STATEMENT AS HAVING ENDORSEMENT OF NON-ALIGNED, WITH PAKISTAN PERMREP AKHUND TAKING THE LEADING ROLE. MEGUID THEN REMARKED THAT CAIRO INSERTED "HOMELAND" CONFIDENTIAL

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PHRASE SINCE PRESIDENT CARTER HAD REFERRED TO "HOME-LAND" IN CLINTON, MASS. REMARKS. SIMILARLY TEXT OF PARA 3 IN DRAFT MERELY REFLECTED WHAT HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN AGREED TO IN SC CONSENSUS STATEMENT OF NOVEMBER 11, 1976. MEGUID AT SOME LENGTH EXPLAINED THAT IF EGYPT WERE TO WITHDRAW "HOMELAND" FROM DRAFT, ARAB PUBLIC WOULD VIEW THIS AS A VICTORY FOR ISRAEL.

5. LEONARD REPLIED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S REMARKS AT CLINTON, MASS. WERE NOT APPROPRIATE IN THE INSTANCE OF A CONSENSUS STATEMENT ON SYG WALDHEIM'S REPORT ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE. THERE WAS IMPORTANT DISTINCTION BETWEEN U.S. OFFICIAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND LANGUAGE WHICH WAS OF APPROPRIATE CHARACTER FOR DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENTS. THE SC WAS DISCUSSING AT THE MOMENT ONLY THE SYG'S REPORT AND THE PROCESS OF PEACE, NOT THE SUBSTANTIVE ELEMENTS OF A PEACE SETTLEMENT.

6. MEGUID SAID HE UNDERSTOOD FULLY, AND THAT HE WAS

INSTRUCTED FROM CAIRO. HE REFERRED TO HIS EARLIER UNDER-  
STANDING WITH AMB YOUNG WHEN BOTH AGREED TO WORK TOWARD  
A SIMPLE NON-SUBSTANTIVE CONSENSUS, BUT CAIRO DECIDED  
OTHERWISE. AFTER FURTHER UNDERSCORING THAT THE ARAB  
SIDE VIEWED "HOMELAND" AS A BREAKTHROUGH, MEGUID CONCLUDED  
CONVERSATION BY NOTING THAT HE WOULD REPORT US  
POSITION TO CAIRO IMMEDIATELY. LEONARD ADDED THAT  
US WOULD INSIST ON THE SAME THREE ELEMENTS IN A DRAFT  
STATEMENT, AS DISCUSSED EARLIER IN CAIRO AND HERE.  
IT WOULD NOT TOUCH ON SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS. WE WOULD  
BE PREPARING A DRAFT TEXT WHICH WE COULD DISTRIBUTE  
TO MEGUID AND TO THE PAKISTAN PERMREP ON MONDAY MORNING.

7. COMMENT: WHILE THERE IS NO QUESTION OUR MESSAGE  
WAS CLEARLY RECEIVED BY MEGUID, WE ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC  
EGYPTIANS WILL WITHDRAW THEIR DRAFT OR ALTER IT  
SUFFICIENTLY TO BE ACCEPTABLE. MORE LIKELY RESPONSE MAY  
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BE THAT SEVERAL WORD CHANGES WILL BE PUT FORWARD WHILE  
BODY OF DRAFT REMAINS UNCHANGED IN ESSENCE. TACTICAL  
QUESTION OF WHETHER TO CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF RECESSING  
DEBATE UNTIL APRIL OR TO ATTEMPT TO PURSUE DRAFT CONSENSUS  
WILL DEPEND ON RESPONSE FROM CAIRO. WESTERNERS ON SC  
WILL GENERALLY SUPPORT OUR POSITION ON DRAFT STATEMENT  
OR ON RECESSING DEBATE. AFRICANS DESPITE THEIR OWN INTEREST  
IN DEBATE ON SOUTH AFRICA MAY BE HESITANT TO RALLY FOR RECESS  
OF EGYPTIAN-SPONSORED DEBATE ON MIDDLE EAST REPORT; NON-  
ALIGNED WILL OF COURSE FOLLOW EGYPT ON THIS.  
YOUNG

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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